R and D, Lab for Quality Assurance, Codex and other Promotional Activities. During 2007-2008, Scheme for Technology up-gradation/expansion/modernization of Food Processing Industries was a continuing scheme and achieved and target. Other Plan Schemes could not be completed during 2007-2008 as the same had not been approved by Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) as well as Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs (CCEA) in that year.

(b) The food items, namely, rice, mango pulp, buffalo meat, poultry products, processed meat, other processed foods such as groundnuts, guargum, coco product cereal preparations and milled products are the major items which contribute to the global market.

(c) There has been an increase in domestic consumption.

(d) An amount of Rs. 182.97 crores have been utilized out of budget allocation of Rs. 200.00 crores during the year 2007-2008.

Energizing the food processing sector

158. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to energize the food processing sector during the Eleventh Five Year Plan, to attain domestic and international quality standards, with a view to gain entrance in the international trade in food;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the current status of this industry in the international market; and

(d) what is the action plan of Government to go all-out to create the right environment for food processing industry in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (I/C) (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) The Government has notified Food Safety and Standard Act, 2006 which envisages establishment of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India for laying down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, and sale with a view to produce Food of international quality and gain entrance in the international food trade.

For promotion and development of food processing sector, Ministry of Food Processing Industries under its Plan Schemes has been providing financial assistance to various stakeholders in the country. On the basis of Vision 2015 on Food Processing Industries adopted by the Ministry, an integrated strategy and action plan for the growth of food processing industry sector has been drawn up. The Vision is to increase level of processing from 6% to 20%, value addition from 20% to 35% and share in global food trade from 1.6% to 3% by the year 2015.

The Planning Commission has approved "in principle" the schemes submitted by the Ministry for implementation in the Eleventh Plan, with a tentative outlay of Rs. 4031 crores for the Eleventh Plan period, against the outlay of Rs. 650 crores approved for the Tenth Plan.

In order to realize Vision 2015, Ministry of Food Processing Industries have identified the following major strategic initiatives during Eleventh Plan period for rapid growth of food processing industries and consequent creation of substantial employment opportunities in the food processing sector:

(i) Establishment of Mega Food Parks in identified clusters with appropriate backward and forward linkages.

(ii) Creation of integrated cold chains/value addition and preservation infrastructure.

(iii) Modernization of abattoirs.

(iv) Up-gradation of hygienic and quality street food and food streets.

(v) Establishment and Up-gradation of quality control laboratories.

(vi) Rationalizing tax structure.

(vii) Incentivising FDI and private investment in infrastructure.

(viii) Undertaking capacity building of small and unorganized sector.

(ix) Launching a major promotional campaign for the food processing sector.

Food processing facilities in Jammu and Kashmir

159. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge quantities of apple and other fruits have rotted in Jammu and Kashmir due to non-availability of sufficient food processing capacity/transport there during strike and agitation in July-August, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to avoid such a situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (I/C) (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) Temporary disruption of movement of transport in view of the disturbances has been reported by the State Government. However, the Government had taken all possible steps for smooth movement of goods and the situation remained under constant watch at the highest level. In July 2008, 2437 trucks of fruits reached Delhi and other markets as compared to 2080 trucks in the corresponding month of July 2007. During August 2008, 2303 trucks had reached Delhi and other markets compared to 3385 trucks in the corresponding month of 2007. After August, 2008, the movement of supplies has considerably increased as compared to last year.

So far emphasis has been on supply of fresh fruit. Around 80,000 M. Tones of processing capacity is available in the public and private sector against the production of 13 lakhs M. Tones of fresh fruit in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.